

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 112038

50

ORIGIN SS-14

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 ADP-00 FILE-01 SSO-00 /016 R

66646

DRAFTED BY: S/ S- O: A. PERKINS 6/8/73

APPROED BY: S/ S- O K. KURZE

----- 039626

P 090137 Z JUN 73 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 112038

TOSEC 15

THE FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE SECDEF, INFO ANKARA,
ATHENS, BONN, COPENHAGEN, LISBON, LONDON, LUXEMBOURG,
OSLO, OTTAWA, PARIS, REYKJAVIK, ROME THE HAGUE, USNATO,
USNMR SHAPE, USCINCEUR, USLO SACLANT, USDEL MC FROM
BRUSSELS 08 JUN 1973 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE:

S E C R E T BRUSSELS 3174

COPEHNAGEN ALSO FOR MCGUIRE

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: OCON, MARR, NATO, BE

SUB: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING JUNE 7 REQUEST:

VANDEN BOEYNANTS' INTERVENTION ON BURDEN SHARING

1. I ASKED POLITICAL DIRECTOR DAVIGNON ON JUNE 8 WHAT
HAD PROMPTED DEFENSE MINISTER VANDEN BOEYNANTS' DPC
INTERVENTION ON U. S. PROPOSAL FOR MULTILATERAL EFFORT TO
ALLEViate US BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE
STATIONING OF U. S. FORCES IN NATO EUROPE.

I NOTED THAT, IF BELGIAN PRESS ACCOUNTS ARE ACCURATE,
VANDEN BOEYNANTS' RESPONSE WAS UNUSUALLY SHARP AND
CARRIED THE IMPLICATION THAT THE US WAS BUILDING A
FALSE PRETEXT UPON WHICH TO BASE A UNILATERAL WITHDRAWAL
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 112038

OF FORCES. I REMINDED HIM THAT THE US COMMITMENT TO KEEP ITS FORCES IN EUROPE HAD BEEN MADE REPEATEDLY AND RECENTLY, AND I ASSURED HIM THAT THERE WAS NO BASIS IN FACT FOR DRAWING A CONTRARY INFERENCE FROM ANYTHING THE US HAS DONE OR SAID, INCLUDING SECRETARY- DESIGNATE SCHLESINGER' S REMARKS AT THE DPC.

2. DAVIGNON BEGAN BY SAYING THAT, IF WE HAD BEEN SURPRISED AT VANDEN BOEYNANT' S INTERVENTION, THE BELGIANS AND OTHERS HAD BEEN EQUALLY SURPRISED AT SCHLESINGER' S SPEECH. SPECIFICALLY, HE SAID THAT THE LATTER CONTAINED TWO ELEMENTS THAT SPURRED VANDEN DEYNANTS AND OTHERS TO REACT:

A. THE RELATIVELY ROSY PICTURE IT CONVEYED OF NATO' S CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE POSTURE, WHICH WAS CLEARLY AT VARIANCE WITH THE DESCRIPTION MINISTERS HAD HEARD FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE ON THE SUBJECT OF STEADILY INCREASING IMPROVEMENTS AND INCREASES IN SOVIET FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION:

B. THE IMPLICATION THAT, IN GENERAL, EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF NATO WERE NOT CONTRIBUTING THEIR FAIR SHARE TO THE OVERALL ALLIED EFFORT. IN A MORE GENERAL VEIN, DAVIGNON REMARKED THAT SCHLESINGER' S REMARKS HAD BEEN BADLY RECEIVED BY ALL OF THE MINISTERS AND INDICATED THAT THIS WAS ATTRIBUTABLE BOTH TO THE FACT THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME A MULTILATERAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS RELIEF PROBLEM HAD BEEN OFFICIALLY PROPOSED AND TO THE FEELING THAT THE DEFENSE EFFORTS OF AMERICA' S ALLIES WERE NOT FULLY APPRECIATED. IN THIS CONNECTION, DAVIGNON NOTED THAT THE BRITISH AND GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTERS HAD ALSO MADE THEIR DISENCHANTMENT CLEAR.

3. I REPEATED WHAT I HAD SAID EARLIER, STRESSING THAT NO GOOD COULD BE SERVED BY SUGGESTING THAT THE U. S. HAD ULTERIOR MOTIVES. DAVIGNON WAS QUICK TO DENY THAT VANDEN BOEYNANTS INTENDED ANY ACCUSATION. INSTEAD, HE SAID, THE INTENT WAS SIMPLY TO MAKE KNOWN THAT SCHLESINGER' S REMARKS COULD GIVE RISE TO THE SUSPICION THAT THE U. S. HAD SECRET PLANS IN TRAIN FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM EUROPE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 112038

4. COMMENT: DAVIGNON SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON THE DPC MEETING BY DE STAERCKE AND DEVER, BUT HE DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE READ THE ACTUAL TEXTS OF EITHER SCHLESINGER' S OR VANDEN BOEYNANTS' INTERVENTIONS. BASED ON REPORTS WE HAVE RECEIVED OF SCHLESINGER' S INTERVENTION (USNATO 2831), I BELIEVE THAT DAVIGNON' S CHARACTERIZATION

OF THE SPEECH IS DECIDELY UNBALANCED AND REQUIRES FURTHER
CHALLENGE. WE INTEND TO RAISE THIS MATTER AGAIN WITH BOTH
THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE DEFENSE MINISTRY, AND WE WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE THE DEPARTMENT CAN OFFER.
ETRAUSZ- HUPE UNQUOTE
RUSH

SECRET

NNNNMAFVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE112038
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: A. PERKINS 6/8/73
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730620/aaaajbuc.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <13-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980209
Subject: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING JUNE 7 REQUEST: VANDEN BOEYNANTS' INTERVENTION ON BURDEN SHARING
TAGS: MARR, OCON, BE, NATO
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005